

DRAFT

COMMISSION on AGING
Minutes of February 17, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Will Bigl (2015), Nancy Trawick Smith (2017), Jennifer Hoskins (2017), Bettejane Karnes (2015),
Martina Wharton (2018)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bev Korba (2017), Steve Kegler (2015), Laurie McMorrow (2017), Don Nolan (2017)

STAFF: Cindy Dainton, Senior Center Supervisor; Pat Schneider, Human Services Director

STAFF ABSENT: Estelle Elliott, Senior Center Association President

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES: Judy Bigl, Jensen's Rolling Hills

GUEST: None

Meeting was called to order at 9:30 am.

Minutes of December 8, 2014 were reviewed and accepted. Motion made to accept: Bettejane Karnes, Seconded: Nancy Trawick Smith.

Correspondence: Will read a letter from Mollie Kirouac. She asks to be the representative from Glen Ridge.

Reports:

Director of Human Services Report: Pat Schneider presented to the Commission a building update based on a report by Allen Carson, Director of Facilities Management for the town of Mansfield. Regarding the status of the Senior Center building. There are many big ticket items that need to be addressed. The retaining wall is unsound. The heating and cooling systems are inadequate. Also, there is the issue of space. The current building is too small and it is difficult to accomodate all of the needs of it's seniors. That being said, due to budgetary constraints, a new Senior Center is not feasible at the time. The Town Council was receptive to the over all Building Master Plan. The Senior Center has purchased a new automobile. Pat stated that Carol MacCaully is leaving her position at the Senior Center.

Senior Center Supervisor Report: Cindy Dainton handed out copies of the Senior Center Evaluation Report. She also handed out copies of the NCOA guidelines. NCOA is a national Senior Center accreditation agency. The Mansfield Senior Center is seeking accreditation by this agency. Accreditation will benefit the Senior Center by making it possible to seek diverse grant funding.

Housing: Judy Bigl gave a report on Jensen's Rolling Hills. The Commission needs representatives from Juniper Hills and Wrights Way. Jennifer Hoskins stated that there is no new information from the Human Services Advisory Committee.

New Business: Pat Schneider presented four community grant proposals for COA endorsement. The proposals were discussed. A motion was made by Jennifer Hoskins and seconded by Bettejean Karnes to accept the proposal of Community Companions and Homemakers. There was one abstention. The COA dedcided that the Mansfield Non Profit Housing Development Building request for funds to build a gazebo at Wrights Way, was not inkeeping with the peramiters of the COA's mission. A motion was made by Bettejean Karnes and seconded by Nancy Trawick Smith to accept the grant proposal by the TVCCA. The grant proposal from the WRTD was discussed. The COA decided that more information was needed concerning this proposal. The members voted to accept and send the letter that was drafted to Linda Painter, Town Planner.

Old Business: The work on the bus shelter on South Eagleville Road is not yet completed. The Emergency Preparedness Booklet has been streamlined and is ready to print and distribute. As stated

above, Senior Center Accreditation is actively being sought. Bettejean Karnes stated that the Senior Center Committee has written letters stating the need for a site to build a new Senior Center. They will continue to look for a site. She suggested that the committee be put on hold until the spring. The COA will draft a letter to the committee and the Town Council reiterating the need for a new Senior Center.

Opportunity for the Public to Address the Commission: No one was present to address the Commission.

There will be no March meeting. Will Bigl will notify the absent members.

The next meeting will be on April 13, 2015 at 9:30 am in the craft room of the Senior Center. A motion was made to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted by Martina M. Wharton